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State of New Hampshire } In the Committee of Safety, Exeter 27th Decr 1781

(L. S.) To Robert Smith Greeting

Whereas Information hath been given to this Committee, that Samuel King Gentleman, Moses Smith Yeoman both Chesterfield, Isaac Griswold of Keen Yeoman and Nathaniel Sartel Prentice of Alstead Esquire, all in the County of Cheshire and State aforesaid, have been guilty of sundry practices inimical to this State ---

Therefore you are hereby required in the Name of the Government and People of said State forthwith to apprehend the Bodies of the said, Samuel King, Moses Smith, Isaac Griswold & Nathaniel Sartel Prentice if they may be found in this State, and bring them, as soon as may be, before the Committee of Safety, to be examined touching the matters alledged against them, that they may be dealt with as to Justice shall appertain. --

And all officers, Civil & Military, and other Subjects of this State, are hereby required to be aiding and assisting you in the Premises. --

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon

Given under my Hand and Seal on the day and year above mentioned

Josiah Bartlett Chairman

Charlestown 22 December 1781

Dear General

In obedience to your Orders of the 18th instant I have Issued orders to Col. Sargents and King to call on and have the whole of their Regiments in the most finished Redines to march on the shortest notice with arms ammunition accoutrements and six days provision to defend the Liberties of Vermont against all Hostile Invaders

From your most obedient
Humble Servant
Samuel Fletcher. B. General

B. General Fletcher Returns
to Major General Elisha Payne.

B. Gent. Enos & Ira Allen. Esqrs to Honble E. Bartlett Esqr 29th Decr. 1781. (Copy)

Exeter Decr 29th. 1781

Sir

You will herewith receive a duplicate of our commission & instructions to attend the General Court of New Hampshire and have to add that notwithstanding one of our colleagues Wm Page Esqr being confined in Goal contrary (as we conceive) to the Laws of the States or Nations yet we are so desirous of an accommodation that we are ready to enter upon the business of our mission.

& are with sentiments of esteem

Your humble servants

Roger Enos

Ira Allen

The Honble Elisha Bartlett Esqr. President &c.

23,

Lt Govr Paynes to Honble Mesheck Weare Esqr
21st Dect 1781. (Copy)

Charlestown December 21st 1781

Sir.

I herewith transmit to your honor a Copy of orders received from the Commander in Chief of the State of Vermont issued in consequence of coersive measures pursuing by New Hampshire from which you will learn my situation, inclination and duty conspire to induce my compliance with any measures which Reason and Justice may point out to avert threatning hostilities, pregnant not only with the horrors of civil war but also the greatest injury to the United States whose interest it is our desire as well as yours to support.

Have therefore by advice of sundry members of the Council of this State and other Gentlemen of influence and consideration now present, appointed Brigadier General Enos & Wm Paige Esqr. in conjunction, with Cole Ira Allen (already appointed by the Governor) to wait on your Assembly to state before the sd Assembly the Reasonableness of the late proposals of the Legislature of Vermont transmitted to your honor by a Committee appointed by said Legislature for that purpose for a settlement of the dispute between New-Hampshire and Vermont= You must be sensible it has ever been our Ideas to have Justice and Equity take place in the decision & therefore by the advice aforesaid renew proposals that the controversy in respect to the Territory the Jurisdiction of which is in dispute between the said States be decided by an Impartial Tribunal on principles of right and equity in the mode Congress have pointed out, by articles of confederation of the United States in cases where disputes arise between two or more States, in respect to Boundary Jurisdiction &c. Vermont being allowed equal priviledges as the other party in support of their claim & that Hostilities between the said States be suspended till such tryal can be had we doubt not a compliance on the part of Vermont with the foregoing proposals which appear to us equitable. & just & are persuaded that New-Hampshire are so possessed of principles of Justice & Equity as shall induce a compliance on their part and hope for their

favourable answer to lay before the Assembly of Vermont for their consideration at their meeting on the last Thursday in January next.

In case New-Hampshire refuse compliance with equitable terms as are in view the foregoing and are determined on hostilities previous to attempts for an amicable settlement shall find myself under the disagreeable necessity to execute the orders I have received in raising the force of Vermont to repel incroachments on its Jurisdiction exercised by the consent of the people & which I doubt not their most spirited exertions to support till the dispute is decided. confident New-Hampshire in case they commence hostilities must be accountable for the consequences.

I have the honor to be with
esteem and respect. Sir, Your honors
most obt & most humble. servant
Elisha Payne Lt Genl

(Signed)
His Honor Meshech Weare Esqr
President of the Council of New-Hampshire

(Copy)

Affidavit of David Abeel 20th Decr 1781. No. 17.

State of New-York ss.

David Abeel of Katskill in the County of Albany, Yeoman being duly sworn deposeth and saith that some time in the month of April last past he was taken prisoner at his own house by a party of Indians & Tories and carryed to Niagara & from thence to Montreal. That on his way to the latter place at the Cedars he saw one John Jost Herkemer who informed this deponent that the people on the New-Hampshire Grants headed by Colo Allen would join the British with fifteen hundred men. That a Major Allen was then gone down to Quebec for that purpose.

That at Montreal it was the General Report that the New-Hampshire Grants would join them. That this deponent saw at Isle Aux Noix a Major Fay on board a vessel called the Royal George, and who this deponent understood was an Inhabitant on the said Grants. That on board of the said vessel was one Doctor Smith. Captain Sherwood & another person whose name the deponent does not recollect who were appointed Commissioners to treat with the said Major Fay. That the said Fay brought with him upwards of thirty Hessians deserted from Burgoines Army for Exchange as this deponent was informed, & which he delivered to the British. And further saith not

David Abeel

Sworn this 20th day of
Decr 1781 before

Richard Morris
Robert Yates

Affidavit of Dirck Swart & Daniel Dickinson
20th Decr 1781 No. 16.

Dirck Swart Esquire & Major Daniel Dickinson being duly sworn depose and say that on the 16th day of Dect instant they joined Colo Gates who lay with his men at the house Lt Colo Renslear at Sinckaick. That these deponents requested Colo Gates to give them Liberty to go to Bennington in order to obtain intelligence relative to the designs and movements of the people of Bennington & the Grants. That by leave of Colo Gates these deponents on the 17th day of Dect inst. accordingly set out and on their way about two miles and a half from Bennington these deponents stopped at the House of Captain Mans who informed these deponents that the Vermont people were ordered out & that a Man from Bennington had passed his house a few minuets ago with ammunition & that five hundred men from Arlington with a field peace were to be at one Mr. Waits where the Ammunition was to be carried. That these deponents then proceeded to Bennington & went to Mr. Dewy's Tavern where they saw about one hundred men collected with arms. That after being some short time in the house not exceeding half an hour these deponents heard Major Fichner (in conversation with Genl Ethan Allen) declare that he would with his life and fortune protect this new Union & quoted some Author that a Genl should not let his Enemy know where he intended to strike, But give the blows and think afterwards & said that he was also of that opinion declaring at the same time that now the time (or Hour) was come. Upon which said Allen answered now you begin to talk something like and declared himself to be of the same sentiments. That thes deponents do not suppose that they were known by said Fichner and Allen while they were in the House of Dewey where said conversation was. That on their return they again stopped at the House of Captain Mans who said that a certain Doctor Dickinson of Bennington had been on the East side of the Mountain where the people told said Doctor that they were jealous that the people of the West side were in alliance with the Enemy in Canada ——— That the said Doctor returned to Bennington & on making inquiry found that it was absolutely true & thereupon

declared he would as leave be dead as to live among them. That these deponents then left Captain Mans & in coming opposite Mr. Waits (on this side of the twenty mile line and three miles from Colo Bansleers at Sinckaik) saw a number of armed men at said Waits & a field piece drawn by four oxen through the Creek & between that and the said Ransaleers met several men in arms going (as it appeared to these deponents to join the said Vermonters) at said Waits & farther these deponents say not

Dirick Swart

Daniel Dickinson.

Sworn 20th Decr 1781 before me one of the Aldermen of the city of of Albany & one of the Justices of the Peace of the city and County of Albany

Peter W. Yates.

(Copy)

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Lt Govr Payne to Genl. Enos & Wm. Page Esqr
appointment and instructions
21st Decr. 1781 (Copy)

State of Vermont

To Brig. Genl. Roger Enos and William Page Esqrs

Gentlemen

By advice of several members of Council of this State you are hereby appointed and empowered to repair forthwith to the Assembly of N. Hampshire & in conjunction with Colo Ira Allen (already there by appointment of the Governor) and use your endeavours that said Assembly consider and concur with the proposals made to them for the settlement of the dispute between the two States relative to jurisdiction and agree on measures to prevent hostilities. till an equitable & impartial determination of the said disputes can be obtained

(Signed)

Elisha Payne. Lt Govr

Charlestown Decr 21st 1781

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Copy Deposition of Casper Rouse 16th Decr 1781 against the Insurgents at Schaghtekoke District &c. No. 11

Albany ss

Casper Rouse of the District of Schaghtekoke in the County of Albany being duly sworn deposeth and saith that on the third day of December instant on his way home from Colo Israel Thompsons in Schaghtekoke District aforesaid he was taken prisoner by one Barney Hyat who told the deponent he was a constable under the authority of the State of Vermont, & that he took the deponent prisoner by virtue of a warrant granted by Esquire Benedict. That upon the deponents refusing to submit to the arrest and denying the authority of Vermont the said Barney Hyat called to his assistance Johannis Snyder & Fredrick Freemen two of the Inhabitants of the District of Schaghtekoke aforesaid who were armed each with a gun & that the said Barney Hyat delivered the deponent over to the said Benedict, that the said two armed men carried the deponent about a mile prisoner and then took his parole went to the said Esquire Benedict whome he found to be Thomas Benedict an Inhabitant residing within the said district of Schaghtekoke. That Edward Lewett of the said District was with the said Benedict & that he the said Thomas Benedict and Edward Lewett acted as Justices of the Peace under the authority of the State of Vermont that this deponent asked the said Benedict and Lewett what crime was alledged against the deponent, that the said Benedict told the deponent he should know his crime when the Constable returned. That at Benedicts there were about fifteen persons assembled all Inhabitants of the said District of Schaghtekoke aforesaid. That the deponent does not know the Christian names of the persons so assembled besides the said Justices. but that Reed Martin a son in law of william Shepherd of the District of Schaghetkoke aforesaid, two sons of the said Thomas Benedict, that when this deponent was before the said Justices he exclaimed against their authority that the said Justices told the deponent he must go to the said William Shepherds which he refused. that shortly after the said

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Justices went away, and some time after this the said Reed told the deponent he must go to the said William Shepherds which he refused that thereupon the said Reed ordered the said Johannis Synder Fredrick Reemer Root and others to take and carry the deponent to the said William Shepherds. That the said Johannis Synder Fredrick Reemer & Root laid hold of the deponent and forcibly carried him out of the house of the said Benedict in order to to bring him to the said Shepherds that all the persons in the said Benedicts house (except one Andrews) were aiding and assisting in the taking and carrying the deponent as aforesaid, and this Deponent further saith that sometime last Summer a meeting of about 60 persons inhabitants of the district of Schachtekoche aforesaid and of the East District of the Manor of Ranselearwyck in the County of Albany aforesaid, that there meeting was called by advertisement for the purpose of Choosing a Governor and Representatives in Assembly for the State of Vermont. That the said advertisements were signed by the said William Shepherd and one Doty who lives on the farm of William Rogers Dec'd in the District of Schaghtekoche aforesaid. That at this meeting were present Jehiadrich Phelps. Henery Jackson, Jury Wetsel, Peter Rawburger. David Smith Edward Henderson. Jacob van Worner. Hendrick van Der Hoof Thomas Benedict. Edward Jewett all of the District of Schaghtekoche aforesaid — Fairbanks Hubbard of the East District of the Manor of Renpelearwyck aforesaid. That all the said persons above mentioned voted at the said Election and took the Freemens Oath to the State of Vermont. That the said Oath was administered by the said Thomas Benedict. Edward Jewett & — Fairbanks who severally acted as Justices of the Peace under the said State of Vermont of the District of Schaghtekoche aforesaid — That at the said meeting was present Doctor Wood whose name the deponent is informed is John. & altho he did not vote it appeared to the deponent that the said Wood is an advocate for the said State of Vermont & a supporter of the Government there of & the said District & further the deponent saith not

Casper Rouse

Sworn before me the 16th day of Decr 1781

Robert Gates (Cathy)

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Deposition of James Green 16th
Dec 1781 against Samuel Fairbanks
Daniel Jonray Recompence Smith No 10

Albany ss

James Green of the city of Albany being duly sworn deposeth and saith that some time last Summer he was taken prisoner at the District Schagticoke in the County of Albany by virtue of warrent issued by Samuel Fairbanks of the New City in the East District of Rensselearwyck in the County of Albany upon the complaint of David Smith & Recompence Smith the deponent as deputy Sheriff of the said County had taken Recompence Smith by virtue of process issued out of the inferior court of common Pleas for the City and Court of Albany. That among the party who took the deponent & were the said Daniel Smith Recompence Smith & Hubbard. that after the deponent was a Prisoner he was carried before the said Samuel Fairbanks as a Magistrate under the Authority of the pretended State of Vermont that the deponent in order to get released from his imprisonment was compelled to give bail for his appearance at a Court to be held at Bennington at a future day that after the deponent was a prisoner he was carried to the house of Christopher Dillman at New-City aforesaid where Daniel Jonray came in & appeared to be acting and assisting therein and approved of the proceedings against the deponent. & the deponent further saith that he was taken by virtue of the warrant aforesaid for having exercised his authority as deputy Sheriff aforesaid at the said district of Schagticoke in the County of Albany aforesaid in manner as aforementioned and further this deponent saith not

James Green

Sworn before me this
16th day of Dec 1781.

Robt Yates C.

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Affidavit of Bezaleel Phelps
15th Decr 1781 No. 5

Personally appeared Bezaleel Phelps who being sworn saith that he has been admitted into the council from time to time held. One time by Genl Safford: Colo. Moses Robinson and others from Bennington in company with, and at other times held by John Abbott. Joel Abbott one Fairbanks and others which result was as followeth that they would disperse the Party now under the command of Cole Gates by tuching the lives or making prisoners of Cole Gates. Cole Ransselaer Daniel Bratt. Capt. Thomas Brown, if not dispersed before they could get at them & also informs that he has seen writts executed for the purpose of apprehending the Gentlemen last mentioned in order to secure them until the Vermont Laws be in force, as also to recover from them all costs & Damages of the party now under arms & that they show themselves forward to come to terms with Cole Gates in order to get an advantage to take them also that they had agreed last Wednesday to fall on Colo. Gates and party and put them to the sword & further saith not.

Bezaleel Phelps

Sworn in Cambridge this 11th day of Decr 12 at night 1781
before me

John Younglove
Justice

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Copy of a Letter from Thos. Chittenden to
Genl Starks Decr 15th. 1781 No. 9
arlington Decr 15th 1781

Dear Sir

I have consulted my Council on the perpleyed situation of this State & have resolved to call the Legislature thereof to meet at Bennington as soon as may be at which time they will doubtless consult such measures as may tend for the peace and tranquility of this and the United States.

In the mean time I earnestly request that you write to the officers of New-York that are daily making depredations to the west to suspend any further operations of that kind untill the Assembly meet and that if they do not comply you will not interfere with your troops. and I do assure that if they comply with said request & liberate the the Prisoners they have taken I will suspend the Exercise of Jurisdiction or law over any person or persons who profess themselves subjects of New-York during that time

I am Sir
with sentiments of esteem
Your most obt obt & most humble
Servt.
Thos Chittenden

Honble
Brig. Genl Starks

1781

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Arlington 14th December 1781

Sir.

I have received dispatches from William Paige Esq Sheriff of Washington County which gives me to understand that there is a high probability that the Government of New-Hampshire are about taking coersive measures to Compel the peaceable citizens of this State to submit to the Laws and authority of New-Hampshire, the Sheriff further Desires my special orders in matters relating to the premises and as my remote situation renders it impractiable that I should have the knowledge of the particular occurrences which may take place should such an attempt be made by New-Hampshire therefore I can only give you General Orders in the matter, viz:— provided that New-Hampshire reject the proposals of the Legislature of this State and insist upon hostil measures you are hereby directed to call on such of the Members of the Council & the Generals Fletcher and Olcott and such of the field officers of the Militia on the East side of the Mountain as you may think proper and after having consulted matters if need be you are directed to call on any or all the Militia of this State to the Eastward of the Rang of Green Mountains to your assistance and to assist the Sheriff in Carrying into execution the Laws of this State and to defend its citizens against any insult and provided New-Hampshire make an attack with an armed force you are hereby ordered to repel force by force and in the mean time you will use every meanse in your power consistent with the fear happiness and Dignity of this State to prevent the effusion of Blood which at this time might be more or less injurious to the Common Cause of America as well as attended with many other Serious considerations and which I pray God may never take place

I am Sir.

Your Obedit. Hble Servant

Thos Chittenden

Captain General

Elisha Payne Esqr.

Maj. General

N.B. Provided it is force from New-Hampshire precipitates an measure you must act with that Expedition which there Manoevers may require with

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such council as you can in haste collect

J. C.

A true copy.

test William Paige
Sheriff

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State of New-
Hampshire } In the House of Representatives January 12th 1781.

Whereas this State is subject to many hardships & Inconveniences on account of the unsettled Situation of the Inhabitants of the Tract of Land called the New Hampshire Grants, west of Connecticut River — A respectiable number of whome, being desirous of having said Tract confirmed to this State, considering the same as part thereof — and it being highly necessary as well for the good of this State, as for the Interest of the Inhabitants of said Tract that a speedy Decision be had thereon —

Therefore Resolved, that the Agents & Delegates from this State to the Continental Congress be instructed, and they hereby are instructed to use every possible means to induce Congress to make a speedy and final Determination of the Disputes relating to the Tract of Land aforesaid — And, as soon as Congress shall proceed in said matter, it is the Opinion of this State, that the said Agents and Delegates ought to use their endeavours to have the Justion, "Whether the said Tract of Land shall be a seperate & Independant State" first determined — ---

That if the same shall be determined in the Negative they and each of them urge all proper Motives & arguments to have the same Tract confirmed to the State of New Hampshire for which purpose they are directed to make use of the Papers now in their possession respecting said Dispute — and to procure such other as may be of service —

It is further Resolved that the Honorable of this Resolve & Transmit the same to the said Agents & Delegates as soon as may be —

Sent up for Concurrence

John Langdon Speaker

In council Janry. 13th 1781

Read & Concured

M. Weare Prest.

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State of Vermont

Arlington 15 January 1781

Sir

I am exceedingly unhappy when I view the ~~great~~ critical situation of the interest of the United States, and the great evils which attend the people in this quarter by the unhappy internal broils and contentions caused by the disputes between them and the several adjacent states. which prevents the line of corrispondance with your Excellency, necessary necessary to make the common interest become mutual, and which I am not insensible lies it out of your Excellency power to hold such corrispondance as I presume from your known humanity and warm attachment to the liberties of mankind, would be otherwise granted with pleasure.

Notwithstanding I esteem it my duty to inform your Excellency of the perseverence of the Inhabitants of this State in the grand cause of liberty. in which they have embarked. and of the high estimation they entertain of your Excellency eminent services as Commander in Chief of the American armys (not to flatter) I am wanting in language to express their feelings. I can only assure your Excellency that nothing impeeds their willingness to support your Excellency in the important trust of Commander in Chief at the risque of any thing dear to them, but a want of being assured at the end of sharing equal privileges with the United States.

It gives me pain to give your Excellency any intelligence which may in the least added to your burden. but duty to my Country and self preservation, makes it become necessary to present an official account of our situation in this quarter, so far as respects the interest of the common Cause; for which I refer your Excellency to the inclosed Letters. which are copies of those sent or therein specified and will give a particular relation of the subject. I can only mention further to your Excellency that many Prisoners (Inhabitants of this State) are in the custody of the Enemy in Canada and that notwithstanding

we have taken more than three times the number from the Enemy, it is at present out of our power to return equal numbers, having delivered such prisoners as taken from time to time, to the United States. We are about settling a Cartel for the redemption of our men in Canada as before mentioned, must therefore beg your Excellency's indulgence with a sufficient number of prisoners to answer such an exchange.

Should the Commissioners appointed for that purpose agree, should this proposal meet your Excellency's approbation & return of the members should be immediately transmitted and a complaint with any reasonable requisition that may be necessary to complete a matter so earnestly wished for by

Sir

Your Excellency's most Respectful
and most Obedient
Humble Servant
Thomas Chittenden

His Excellency
General Washington

Note I expect that the letters refered to in the above named Copies of those letters that passed between Haldimond Carlton & in relation to exchange prisoners-

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Peacham 9th March 1781

Sir

We were surprised yesterday morning about three hours before day. by four tories. the officers name was Paterson. one Smith and two Crosses; who came in when we were all in sound sleep. having Daniel Davis for a Guide. they called us up. & told us we were their prisoners, and ordered Lines to bind us. but did not. the took Mr. Johnson, Mr Paige and my two sons, then told me they had Burnt the upper Block house, and that they had fallen on five hundred at the lower block house and at Mr Davises, and that there was another party at Onion River, fifteen hundred in the whole and that Coos would be burnt the night following and that the road Between my house and Coos was way laid; and that Mr Bayley's fort had surrendered, and that I must clear, or else myself and family, would be killed by the Savages. Daniel Davis. Said that both their houses were full of men, and a great number of Indians Camping about this is what account I can give

Johnathan Elkins

To General Bayley and the Inhabitants of Coos. A true Copy. Jacob Bayley.

Semeon Peck } Select
Thea Huntington } men

Lebanon 7 o'clock 11th March 1781. A true Copy